

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

EXCISE

429

36-W

CONFIDENTIAL

Action

Control: 7355

Rec'd: November 21, 1962

7:38 a.m.

EUR

Info

FROM: Warsaw

TO: Secretary of State

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NO: 860, November 19, 1 p.m.

ACTION DEPARTMENT 860, INFORMATION BUCHAREST 8, BERLIN 22,  
MOSCOW 21, HONG KONG 16, TAIPEI 13, BONN 22, PRAGUE 8,  
BUDAPEST 7, SOFIA 4, BELGRADE 22

DEPARTMENT PASS CAS

Following is summary conversations Embassy forces over weekend:

1. Polish General briefed senior military and Central Committee members November 12 or 13 on Cuban situation. Explained Mikoyan having difficult time dealing with Castro dispute CHICOM "technicians" manning anti-aircraft equipment Cuba. CHICOMS have been Cuba at least 30 days. Presence these "technicians" and fact they shot down U-2 used as lever by Castro in talks with Mikoyan. CHICOMS, according to General, hoped provoke war by shooting down U-2.

2. General, attempting placate fears about Soviet military strength vis-a-vis United States, played down Soviet backdown Cuba as of little military significance and commented that Soviets now have "clean bomb" which redresses military difference between USSR and United States.

3. Czech Party Congress scheduled for December 5 has been postponed to December 20 or early 1963.

4. PZPR "conference" November 14 was really party plenum prior to Labor Congress. Called "conference" because Gomulka wanted discussion limited. (Plenum would have allowed discussion wide number subjects). PZPR plenum postponed because foreign policy "fluid" several areas and Gomulka does not wish discuss international situation plus fact split in party exists over

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-2- 860, November 19, 1 p.m., from Warsaw

economic policy. Plenum, however, could be called any time between now and February 1963.

5. Comment: Part of information paragraphs 1 and 2 from [redacted] who believes story is factual, although possibility exists information was leaked in Polish for bloc self-interest. Whether story true or false, interesting that Soviet-CHICOM power struggle in Cuba and need to placate Polish regime fears over military weakness USSR are underlying themes. [redacted]

SHERER

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Note: [redacted] [redacted] [redacted]

Message delayed in transmission.

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Note: [ ] [ ]

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